Solapur-Gadag Gauge conversion will be done on cost sharing basis between Ministry of Railways and Government of Karnataka. Hassan-Mangalore gauge conversion project will be done through Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) route. Cabinet Note for formation of SPV for Hassan-Mangalore gauge conversion project has been sent for consideration of CCEA (Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs).

Downsizing Tindharia workshop

3848. SHRITARINI KANTA ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that N.F. Railway has decided to downsize Tindharia workshop; and

(b) if so, the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir. (b) Does not arise.

Udhampur-Qazigund rail line

3849. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways propose to lay rail line between Udhampur and Qazigund and how much money has been provided from the Rail Budget for the years 2002-03; and 2003-04, year-wise; and

(b) by when the line between Udhampur and Qazigund would be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Udhampur-Qazigund rail line is a part of Udhampur-Qazigund-Baramulla rail line project which is targeted for completion by August 15, 2007. An outlay of Rs. 400 crore was provided for this project during 2002-03 and outlay proposed for the year 2003-04 is Rs. 500 crore.

Selection of CSIR's traditional knowledge database for pilot study

3850. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that CSIR's traditional knowledge database was selected for pilot study by 170 member States by Inter-Governmental Committee at WIPO;

(b) whether a decision to this effect was taken at 31st Session of Committee of Experts held in February, 2002 at WIPO; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT) : (a) to (c) At 31st Session Meeting of International Patent Classification Union, it was decided that a Traditional Knowledge Resource Classification elaborated in India would be taken up for further study by a WIPO Task Force, with a view to investigate its information aspects and its relationship to the International Patent Classification.

Seismological equipment in Bangalore

3851. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that there is no seismological equipment in the Bangalore City to measure earthquakes; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT) : (a) and (b) Sir, at present there is no seismological observatory in the Bangalore City; however, a modern broadband seismological observatory is functional at Kolar Gold Fields and a digital telemetry system has also been maintained and operated by Bhaba Atomic Research Centre at Gauribidnoor. The equipments installed at these locations are very sensitive and capable of picking up very low magnitude events occurring in and around Bangalore City. The Department of Science and Technology has recently evolved a project proposal to install a few strong motion equipments in the Bangalore urban centre for recording near Field seismic data.

Operationalising SARAS

3852. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that SARAS, the country's first 14 seater indigenous multirole Light Transport Aircraft is ready;

(b) if so, whether the trials of this aircraft are over; and

(c) by when this aircraft will become fully operational ?